

**REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection and rejection of the claims. The withdrawal of the prior grounds of rejection, and the indication that the claims contain allowable subject matter, are noted with appreciation.

Claim 1 was objected to for the use of the article "the" to refer to attributes of the liquid crystal cell. It is respectfully submitted that the use of this article is not improper, nor does it create any indefiniteness in the scope of the claims. For example, the claim refers to the thickness of the liquid crystal layer. A person of ordinary skill in the art of liquid crystal displays knows that the liquid crystal layer has a uniform thickness, and therefore would readily understand what the claim means when it refers to "the thickness" of the layer. Similar reasoning applies to "the pitch" and "the birefringence" of the claimed elements.

Nevertheless, to advance prosecution, claim 1 has been amended to remove the use of the article "the" in connection with the attributes identified in the Office Action.

Claims 1, 14, 15 and 20 were rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, as being indefinite. In response thereto, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the angles of the input and output polarizers are defined with reference to the rubbing direction of the liquid crystal cell. See the specification, for example, at page 3, lines 8-10.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

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By: 

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